

Department of Health

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Agency of Human Services

August 11, 2006

Paul Dupre
Executive Director
Washington County Mental Health Services
P.O. Box 647
Montpelier, VT 05601-0647

Todd Centybear
Executive Director
Howard Center for Human Services
300 Flynn Avenue
Burlington, Vermont 05401

Linda Chambers
Executive Director
Clara Martin Center
11 Main Street PO Box G
Randolph, Vermont 05060

Dear Mr. Dupre, Mr. Centybear and Ms. Chambers:

Thank you for providing the final requested documentation to support your application for a Certificate of Approval, and for presenting an overview of your proposal at last week's public hearing. I am pleased to inform you that, based on the information contained in your Certificate of Approval application and the public comments this Department received, the request by Washington County Mental Health, Howard Center for Human Services and Clara Martin Center to develop a community residential recovery program in Williamstown, Vermont is approved. The Certificate of Need statute [18 V.S.A. § 9435(b)] requires you to submit this written approval letter to the Commissioner of the Department of Banking, Insurance and Health Care Administration along with your original Letter of Intent prior to implementing your approved project.

The proposed program represents a thoughtful response to the Mental Health Futures Advisory Committee's plan for developing alternatives to the Vermont State Hospital. The review process and public comment period for this project gave us an opportunity to learn about the strong support for this project among the mental health stakeholder community. We also heard some concerns about issues related to consumer involvement, program design, fiscal sustainability and peer support. We will address these issues in our contract with you.

Your contact person for issues related to the contracting process will be Beth Tanzman, Mental Health Futures Project Director. She can be reached at 802-652-2010 or via e-mail at btanzman@vdh.state.vt.us.

Thank you for the hard work you have done to develop this proposal and for your leadership to create this new program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sharon Moffatt RN MSN". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sharon" being more prominent.

Sharon Moffatt, RN, MSN
Acting Commissioner

cc: John Crowley
Paul Blake
Theresa Wood
Dawn Philibert
Beth Tanzman
Heidi Hall